

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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COMMITTEE PASSES KERSEY'S INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES BILL

INDIANAPOLIS – Today State Rep. Clyde Kersey's (D-Terre Haute) independent living services legislation passed out of the House Public Health Committee.

House Bill 1444 would establish a statewide independent living council which would be responsible for running the 9 independent living centers in Indiana serving 52 of the 92 counties. The council would consist of 15 voting members appointed by the governor, one of whom would be a director of an independent living center. The remaining 13 members would be non-voting, including the remaining 8 directors of the centers.

"The independent living centers provide an invaluable service to disabled and handicapped individuals in our community by locating jobs and recreational activities in which they can take part," said Kersey. "This legislation simply makes the independent living centers, which are funded with federal dollars, compliant with federal law so that they can continue to provide this important service to our community's disabled citizens."

By complying with federal law, Kersey's bill would also provide funding that would allow an additional independent living center to be built in an area of Indiana that is not currently being served by one of the existing centers. The council would be responsible for assessing applications for the new center and making the final decision on where the center will be located.

House Bill 1444 will now be heard in the Indiana House for consideration.